

WEATHER INDICATIONS.

Cloudy tonight and Friday; probably snow; fresh north to northeast winds.

The Evening Times

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PRICE ONE CENT.

CANAL BILL BEFORE HOUSE

Duly Reported by Representative Hepburn.

ARGUMENT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Only One Minor Amendment Attached—An Immediate Appropriation of \$10,000,000. Total Cost Limited.

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, through its chairman, Representative Hepburn, this morning favorably reported to the House the Hepburn-Isthmian Canal bill with only a minor amendment.

The bill authorizes the President to secure from Costa Rica and Nicaragua, in behalf of the United States, control of such a portion of territory as may be desirable and necessary, on which to excavate, construct, and protect a canal suitable to the wants of modern navigation and commerce, and appropriates such a sum as may be necessary to secure the control of such territory.

Construction of the Canal. It further says that the President shall direct the Secretary of War to construct such canal from the Caribbean Sea, at a point near Greytown in Nicaragua, by way of Lake Nicaragua, to a point on the Pacific Ocean near Brito, and also to construct proper harbors at the termini of said canal, and to make necessary provisions for the defense of the canal and harbors.

It directs the President to have made proper surveys, and that in the construction of the canal the San Juan River and Nicaragua Lake shall be used as far as possible.

An appropriation of \$10,000,000. The bill further says that the President is authorized to make any appropriation of \$10,000,000, and the aggregate cost of the canal at \$10,000,000. The report says that the purpose of the bill is to concentrate authority and responsibility in the hands of the President.

Argument in the Report.

It further says: "It is not the purpose of this committee to make at this time any argument in favor of the construction of the Nicaragua Canal. For 400 years navigators and others interested in Oriental trade have directed their endeavors to securing a shorter passage to the East than around either the northern or southern limits of the American continent."

For three-quarters of a century the Congress of the United States and the Executive have been making endeavors in this direction.

Sentiment Among Politicians. The report calls attention to the fact that all of the political parties have endorsed the canal project.

The report concludes as follows:

"In view of all that has been written and spoken in behalf of the Canal recommendation of the President, the endorsement contained in all of the party platforms and the demand of the American people the committee urges the passage of the bill."

The House agreed to take up the Canal bill January 7.

SHORTER HOURS ON TRANSPORTS.

The President's Aid Sought in Half of Laborers.

President Roosevelt has been asked to advise the establishment of an eight-hour day scale of labor on army transports.

Thomas Westoby, of the American Federation of Labor, today presented to Mr. Roosevelt resolutions adopted at the convention of the federation in Scranton, Pa., protesting against the long hours of labor required by certain transportation companies.

Mr. Westoby was accompanied to the White House by Representative Kahn of California, and S. C. Irving of San Francisco, a regent of the University of California.

DEPENDS FREE MASONRY.

Representative Richardson on Rev. Mr. Stoddard's Denunciation.

Representative James D. Richardson of Tennessee, who has the distinction of being the highest Mason in the world, the next in line being King Edward VII, when asked this morning what he thought of the speech delivered in Boston yesterday by Rev. James P. Stoddard before the New England Christian Association, in which the latter denounced Masons and Old Fellows, and charging those orders with being the root of "all anarchy and all ungodliness," said:

"We do not talk such stuff as that."

Beyond this Mr. Richardson would render no comment.

Other members of the House who are Masons said that the Rev. Mr. Stoddard belonged to that class of fanatics who were ever eager to secure notoriety.

Representative Norton, of Ohio, one of the most prominent Masons in the Buckeye State, said that when the Rev. Mr. Stoddard denounced the Masonic order he denounced the Bible and Christianity, as they represented the cornerstone of Masonry.

INDIANS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Colonel Plunkett Introduces Red Men to the President.

Running Scout and James Maria, two full-blooded Pawnee Indians, paid a visit to President Roosevelt today. They have been engaged in the Bureau of Ethnology at work on the ancient ceremonies and rituals of the Red Men.

Col. Richard Plunkett, formerly of Oklahoma, presented the Indians to the President.

Tourists to Florida.

Will find Seaboard Air Line Railway superior train service and fast schedule after unexcused facilities to Florida. Office, 1424 New York Avenue.



Uncle Sam Dismisses School for the Holidays.

REPORT DENIED BY De ARMOND

A Rural Free Delivery Rumor Denounced.

COLLOQUY ON FLOOR OF THE HOUSE.

The Missouri Representative Rises to a Question of Personal Privilege and Replies to Stories Recently Circulated.

A colloquy between the Speaker and Representative De Armond and Payne followed the proceedings of the House today. Mr. De Armond rose to a question of personal privilege, stating that the story had been circulated in his district, to his injury, that rural free delivery in certain counties in Missouri had, at his request, been held up during his absence in the Philippines in order that he might control the appointments in connection therewith.

Point Raised by Mr. Payne.

Mr. Payne made the point of order that in the matter of rural free delivery, Representative De Armond was not acting in his capacity as a Representative, and that therefore the question was not one of personal privilege.

The Speaker cited the rules of the House, and pointed out that Mr. De Armond had not produced any documentary evidence to sustain a question of personal privilege.

De Armond Reads Letters.

Mr. De Armond read several letters and declared that his recommendations to the Postoffice Department did not constitute a personal privilege, but the fact that he had been misrepresented did. He finally secured unanimous consent to state his position, and declared the story which had been circulated about him to be false.

FOR MINISTER TO LIBERIA.

President Appoints J. R. A. Crossland, of Missouri.

The President today named J. R. A. Crossland, of St. Joseph, Mo., as United States Minister to Liberia. Crossland is a prominent Western colored man and will succeed Owen L. W. Smith at the Liberian capital.

Crossland was a strong candidate for appointment as Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia.

MRS. DENNIS IMPROVING.

Partial Restoration to Consciousness Follows a Rally.

Mrs. Ada Gilbert Dennis, the K Street modiste murdered last night, today, after a long and painful recovery from her unconscious condition. Her physicians are surprised at the wonderful vitality displayed by the injured woman.

This afternoon there was no sign of a relapse from the falling spell which Mrs. Dennis underwent yesterday afternoon, and it is now confidently expected that she will soon be in possession of all her mental faculties. It is not believed that she will recover today that he had said her mental faculties.

A. H. Semmes, the Assistant District Attorney, who twice visited Mrs. Dennis yesterday afternoon to secure a statement from her stating today that he had found it impossible to get any rational statement from her regarding the assault.

A FIREMAN HURT.

Edward Barnes Seriously Injured While En Route Home.

Edward Barnes, a fireman with Engine Company No. 7, sprained his ankle and was badly cut about the face last night by falling from an embankment at the corner of Twelfth and Detroit Streets, Brookland.

He was removed to a nearby house, where his injuries were dressed by Dr. Brooks. Today he is confined to his home, 1333 Ninth Street northwest.

SENIOR SEWELL RESTS WELL.

No Unfavorable Symptoms Noted by His Physicians.

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 19.—Following a good night's rest, General Sewell is resting comfortably today and his physicians report no further unfavorable symptoms.

The brave soldier is fighting a strong fight on strategic ground.

THE CHRISTMAS RECESS.

Both Houses of Congress Adjourn Over the Holidays.

The Senate took its annual holiday recess today at 1 o'clock, upon the conclusion of executive business.

The House took like action at 1:44 o'clock, on motion of Mr. Payne of New York.

Both houses will reassemble for business on Monday, January 6, 1902.

TWO LIVES LOST IN FIRES.

Greater New York the Scene of Several Conflagrations.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Half a dozen fires in Manhattan and in Brooklyn this morning gave the city a lively time and resulted in the loss of two lives.

Beat's stores in Erie Basin burned, and Joseph Hull, an old man lost his life.

Mary Peterson, aged five years, was suffocated by smoke from a fire which caught in the Peters fleet in Brooklyn.

The mother was nearly suffocated while trying to rescue her child.

Four fires occurred within two hours on the lower east side in Manhattan.

A fire in ex-Sheriff Tamsen's book store drove fifty people in their night clothes out in the street. There were many rescues.

The lamp factory of Wolfson & Bros. was damaged and the molding and frame manufacturing of Little Bros. on the Bowery was destroyed. The losses aggregate \$100,000.

POSTAL FACILITIES FOR NEW YORK.

New Building and Resumption of Pneumatic Tube System Urged by a Delegation From Gotham.

The erection of a suitable postoffice building and the resumption of operation of the pneumatic tube system are points earnestly advocated by New York merchants. S. Cristy Mead, Assistant Secretary of the Merchants' Association of New York, called on the President today and discussed these matters.

Approved by Postmaster General.

The Postmaster General has recommended that the operation of the pneumatic tube system be resumed in the cities where it was abandoned on July 1 last because Congress failed to make appropriation for its continuance. It is expected by the New York representatives who are pushing this particular item in the appropriation bills, that the system will resume operation again next year.

New Yorkers are bringing forth the argument that smaller cities than the metropolis have much better postoffices than this city.

Conference on Bankruptcy Law.

A committee from the Merchants' Association consisting of George F. Victor, W. T. Evans, and R. B. Hirsch, representatives of New York mercantile firms, conferred last night with Representative Ray, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, in regard to the proposed amendment to the existing bankruptcy law. The committee heartily favors curtailment of the section of the law which now enables a bankrupt to favor certain of his creditors.

The amendment provides that creditors who have received payments in part within four months of the date of bankruptcy will be obliged to refund the amount in order to secure the balance due them.

FIFTEEN DROWNED AT SEA.

LISBON, July 19.—During a heavy gale, which blew throughout the night a Portuguese ship was wrecked in the harbor here. Fifteen of her crew were drowned.

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return, Via B. & O. R. E., Saturday and Sunday.

December 21 and 22. Tickets good returning until following Monday. Good on all trains except Royal Limited.

DISTRICT BILLS IN THE SENATE.

Several Measures of Local Interest Presented.

CARING FOR RIGHTS OF RESIDENTS.

Church Funds, Grade Crossings and Wages of Government Employees Included—Bill to Pension Mrs. McKinley.

The Senate convened at noon today for the last time prior to the holiday recess. Anticipating a short session and an early adjournment until after the New Year, many Senators left last night for their homes, and in consequence there was a sparse attendance when the Senate met.

Mr. Perkins of California presided, under written designation by Mr. Frye, the President pro tem.

The bill to provide revenue temporarily for the Philippine Islands was received from the House and was referred to the Committee on the Philippines.

Senator McComas introduced a bill to amend the corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Washington. The measure gives the church full power to take and hold subscriptions, contributions, donations, and bequests in money, real estate, or otherwise, for the purpose of creating a permanent fund for the support of the Episcopate in the diocese.

GRADE CROSSING DANGERS.

Sensor McComas also introduced a bill to extend Fifth Street in Takoma Park.

It recites the fact that several persons have been killed or injured at the grade crossing in Takoma Park; that many children have to cross the tracks there, and that a safe below-grade crossing should be provided.

It is proposed to open Fifth Street from Blair Road to Macdonia Avenue. The sum of \$17,000 is appropriated for the purpose.

Sensor McMillan offered a bill regulating the use of electricity for heat, light, and power in the District of Columbia.

Sensor McComas presented a bill to preserve the corporate rights of the Georgetown Asylum, of the District of Columbia.

Sensor Mitchell presented a bill providing a standard of wages for women in the Government Departments.

Sensor Platt of New York has introduced a bill to relieve the property owners from the assessment laid for benefits for the extension of Rhode Island Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue, Sherman Avenue, and Eleventh Street northwest.

THE PENSION FOR MRS. MCKINLEY.

Sensor Hanna moved in his seat for the first time in more than a week. He was surrounded by a number of Republicans and related his recent experiences in New York. He presented a huge bundle of bills during the morning business, including one to pension Mrs. McKinley. This is the same bill introduced in the House by Representative Taylor.

A resolution was received from the city council of Salt Lake City, Utah, demanding swift legislation against anarchy and anarchists and regretting the death of President McKinley.

THE RECESS BEGUN.

At 12:40, on motion of Senator Hale, the Senate went into executive session to consider nominations. At 1 o'clock the doors were opened and the Senate, on motion of Mr. Allison, adjourned to meet on January 6.

MEETS FRIGHTFUL DEATH.

Brakeman George Davis Falls Beneath the Wheels of an Engine.

George W. Davis, a brakeman employed on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, fell from a train drawn by shifting engine 185 in the Anacostia freight yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad this morning and was instantly killed, the heavy engine passing over his body.

The remains were taken to the undertaking establishment of J. William Lee, on Pennsylvania Avenue, where they will be prepared for burial. Davis was twenty-six years old and lived at 11 N Street southeast. The coroner has been notified and will give a certificate of death from accidental causes.

Davis was walking on top of a freight car covered with ice and snow, when he slipped and fell.

TO RETIRE CLERKS ON AGE.

A House Bill to Create a Pension Fund by Assessment.

Representative Gillett of Massachusetts today introduced a bill providing for the retirement of Government employees on a pension to be provided by a fund created by deducting 2 per cent per annum from the salaries of all persons now on the Government rolls.

The bill is to take effect from January 1, 1901.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON NOT CRITICALLY ILL.

DOCTORS EXPLAIN HIS CONDITION.

Suffering From Physical and Mental Collapse and Slowly Growing Worse Day by Day—His Family Despondent.

There seems to be no foundation for the reports which have gained circulation during the past few days that Rear Admiral Sampson is in a dying condition.

The Rear Admiral is suffering from a mental and physical collapse, which began a year or more ago, and he has grown slightly worse recently.

Shows No Improvement.

He shows no improvement, and the change that takes place in his condition is so slight as to be almost imperceptible.

His doctors say he may live only a few months, or he may survive for years, but unless the unexpected happens there is no immediate danger.

Was at Dinner Yesterday.

Admiral Sampson was able yesterday to go down stairs and eat dinner with his family, and on last Sunday he was out of the house for a short time.

Members of his family stated today that they hardly expect the admiral will ever be able to leave the house again. One of his physicians said this morning, however, that if the weather were pleasant, Admiral Sampson might become sufficiently strong to take an outing.

FOR THREE VICE ADMIRALS.

Sampson, Schley, and Clark, of the Oregon, Proposed.

A bill providing for revival of the grade of vice admiral and for the appointment of William T. Sampson, Winfield S. Schley, and Charles E. Clark as vice admirals for special gallantry in the recent war was presented in the Senate today by Senator Penrose. The bill asks that their active service be extended ten years.

Representative Pearre of Maryland introduced the same bill in the House. The placing of Rear Admiral Sampson's name first is sure to cause opposition. It is thought, especially in view of Admiral Dewey's minority report.

The bill limits the grade to the three officers named, upon whose deaths it is to lapse.

CANNES WINTER REGATTA.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The yachts Karlad, Sybaris and possibly Shamrock I will take part in the Cannes winter regatta.

JOHN C. DANCY FOR RECORDER

President Names Him for Cheatham's Place.

THE SELECTION ANNOUNCED TODAY.

Both Incumbent and His Successor From the Same State—Latter Not to Take Immediate Charge of the Office.

John C. Dancy, colored, Collector of Customs at Wilmington, N. C., has been named by the President to succeed Henry P. Cheatham as Recorder of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Cheatham resigned from office yesterday, as a result of charges recently filed against him at the instance of Bishop Arnett, of the African M. E. Church, and his son, H. Y. Arnett, of this city who recently resigned from a subordinate position in the Recorder's office.

Charges Against Cheatham.

The Attorney General investigated and reported the result of his enquiries to the President.

The specific charge upon which Cheatham was practically removed was that he had used Government envelopes for private purposes.

Mr. Dancy was appointed upon the recommendation of Senator Pritchard of North Carolina. Cheatham is from that State and Senator Pritchard endeavored to have him retained in office, but when Cheatham submitted his resignation yesterday Senator Pritchard at once presented the name of Dancy.

Record of the New Recorder.

Mr. Dancy made an excellent record as collector of customs at Wilmington, to which place he was appointed by President Harrison. He was again appointed by President McKinley. He was previously registrar of deeds of Edgecombe county, N. C., and also editor of the "Star of Zion," a religious publication and of the "Zion Quarterly Review."

His present term will expire in February. A large number of candidates were in the field for the billet.

LAWSON'S NAME PRESENTED.

Sensor Kean of New Jersey and several members of the delegation from the Mosquito State presented the name of Jesse Lawson, colored, of this city. Lawson holds residence in Plainfield, N. J.

Dr. J. R. A. Crossland, of St. Joseph, Mo., was also a candidate, and the place lay practically between him and Dancy.

Crossland, however, was given an appointment as Minister to Liberia to succeed Owen L. W. Smith, colored, of North Carolina. Dancy was then decided upon.

The matter was settled when Senator Pritchard called at the White House today, accompanied by a number of prominent North Carolinians.

DANCY AT THE CITY HALL.

Dancy was at the City Hall today about noon. He stated that it was not his intention to hurry matters, and would practically leave the question of assuming the duties of the office to the convenience of Cheatham. Speaking of the latter, Dancy said:

"He is my best friend, and it was appointed to the position by President McKinley. From 1894 to 1898, Dancy edited the "Quarterly Review," a magazine published at Salisbury, N. C."

DID ALL HE COULD FOR CHEATHAM.

Dancy also stated that he implored Senator Pritchard to exhaust his whole influence to have Cheatham reappointed Recorder by the President.

Mr. Dancy is forty-three years old, and was appointed collector at Wilmington by President Harrison in 1891. He held the position until 1894. In 1898 he was again appointed to the position by President McKinley. From 1894 to 1898, Dancy edited the "Quarterly Review," a magazine published at Salisbury, N. C.

FLYNN'S BUSINESS COLLEGE, 8th AND K.

Business, Shorthand, Typewriting—\$25 a year.

WRECK ENDS DOZEN LIVES

Overland Trains Collide in Southern California.

SURGEONS HURRIED TO THE SCENE.

Cars Take Fire, and it is Feared a Number of Persons Were Crumpled—All-Aboard Team Aboard

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—Pacific overland train near Upland, Cal., this morning, between the two trains in collision were No. 9 northbound, due to arrive here at 7:30 and No. 7, southbound, which left here last evening.

Among the dead is Fireman Garland, of San Francisco.

Among the injured are Express Messenger Mason, Conductor Willis, and Engineer Donald, of train No. 10; Conductor Williams and Engineer Coffey, of No. 9.

It is probable that a number of passengers were burned up in the smoker, and chair car of No. 9.

The northbound train was in flames at last reports.

Surgeons Hurried to Scene.

A large number of surgeons and a wrecking train were sent from San Francisco at 4 o'clock. At the same time another wrecking train, accompanied by surgeons, was sent from San Luis Obispo.

The two trains in collision were No. 9 northbound, due to arrive here at 7:30 and No. 7, southbound, which left here last evening.

Information Meagre.

Superintendent Frazier, of the coast division of the Southern Pacific, had only meagre information up to 6 o'clock. He says the two trains collided near Argo, the engines crashing together end-on. Both were demolished.

The southbound train was crowded with passengers. Every seat was occupied, and some persons were obliged to stand. Among those on the train were eight discharged soldiers on their way east, and the All-American baseball team, from the East, on their way to Los Angeles.

Track Is Blocked.

The track is blocked. No trains will be able to pass the wreckage today. The Sunset Limited and two freight trains are being held at Bradley.

The cause of the accident is said to have been the failure of the northbound train to stop to allow the other train to pass.

Members of Baseball Team.

The All-American Baseball team is made up of the best baseball players in the country. The star of the organization is Napoleon Lajoie, the captain of the Philadelphia American League team, and the best player in the country. The members of the team are: Sullivan, catcher, Chicago, American League; Bernhard, pitcher, Chicago, National League; McPhee, pitcher, Washington, American League; Lajoie, second base, Philadelphia, American League; Irwin, shortstop, American League; and others.

Claims of Railroad Officials.

The Southern Pacific Railroad officials say that fifty passengers were injured in the Upland wreck, and that the only dead are Fireman Garland and Express Messenger Mason.

TURNER JURY FAILS TO AGREE.

Ordered by Justice Bingham to Consider Testimony Further.

After being locked up all night, the jury in the Weston B. Turner, contested will case, failed to reach a verdict. When the foreman reported this fact to Chief Justice Bingham this morning, he ordered the jury to return